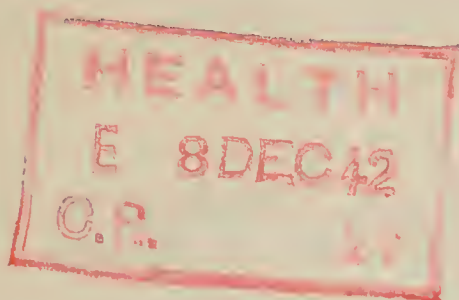


Borough of Weston-super-Mare



Annual Report
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
FOR THE YEAR
1941

including the
Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector and
the Meteorological Report.

Borough of Weston - super - Mare

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1940-41.

Chairman : Councillor W. B. CRAIG.

Vice-Chairman : Councillor E. M. SMITH.

Alderman B. T. BUTTER	Councillor A. J. HEYBYRNE
Alderman P. E. CULLING	Councillor C. W. N. MARTIN
Alderman J. J. LEAVER	Councillor W. C. SLEEP
Councillor Mrs. M. BROWN	Councillor J. C. WALKER
Councillor L. S. BROWN	Councillor G. WOOD

His Worship the Mayor, Councillor E. M. TREVOR, J.P.

Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, 1940-41.

Chairman : Councillor Mrs. M. BROWN.

All Members of the Public Health Committee, with the following co-opted ladies :—

LADY DAVIES	MRS. M. E. LUCAS
MRS. J. L. EDMUNDS	MRS. A. MACFARLANE
MRS. A. J. HEYBYRNE	

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND SUPERINTENDENT OF ISOLATION HOSPITAL :

(Till August 31st, 1941) A. E. REMMETT WEAVER, M.D.,
Ch.B., D.P.H.

(From September 1st, 1941) CYRIL G. EASTWOOD, M.D., Ch.B.,
B.SC., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

ASSISTANT MEDICAL OFFICER :

(Till July 31st, 1941) MRS. K. BALL, M.B., Ch.B.

(From August 1st, 1941) J. P. H. DAVIES-SAGE, M.B., Ch.B.

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR :

H. W. BLADON, F.S.I.A., cert.R.S.I.

SANITARY INSPECTORS :

C. E. URCH, cert.R.S.I., MEAT & FOODS, cert.R.S.I.

W. W. WHITE, cert.R.S.I. & S.I.J.B. exam., MEAT & FOODS
cert.R.S.I., cert. INST. OF PUBLIC CLEANSING (salvage), Cert.
LONDON CITY & GUILDS (Plumbing), cert. RUTHERFORD
COLLEGE (Building Construction).

ABATTOIR SUPERINTENDENT AND SANITARY INSPECTOR :
I. A. STEPHENSON, cert.R.S.I. & S.I.J.B., MEAT & FOODS
cert.R.S.I.

CHIEF HEALTH VISITOR :
MISS D. DALLAWAY, S.R.N., S.C.M., S.I. cert.R.S.I.

HEALTH VISITORS :
MRS. A. M. BISHOP, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.cert.
MISS G. M. HARVEY, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.cert.
MISS A. H. MITCHELL, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.cert.
MRS. D. STITSON, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.F.N.
MISS B. M. WEBBER, S.C.M., L.C.A.T.M.

MATRON, ISOLATION HOSPITAL : Miss A. MANEY, S.R.N.

SUPERINTENDENT OF NURSERIES : Miss G. W. THOMAS.

CHIEF CLERK : Miss D. B. POWELL.

CLERKS : Miss J. STOWER, Miss B. C. LLOYD, Miss E.
NICHOLLS, Mrs. O. F. WILDE.

THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH,
THE TOWN HALL,
WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF
THE BOROUGH OF WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Pressure of departmental business has delayed the production of this report until some considerable time after the close of the year under review. It should be borne in mind, therefore, that the various matters discussed are described as they were at December 31st, 1941. Moreover, as I took up my appointment in the latter part of the year, the greater part of this report necessarily deals with the administration of my predecessor, Dr. Weaver.

In accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Health, the report is presented in a much briefer form than would ordinarily be the case, partly from the desirability of economising in the use of paper and also because it is inadvisable at the present time to publish many details of Local Government. Full records of the work of the Department are, however, being preserved so that after the war it will be possible to fill in many of the gaps which are now left.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

CYRIL G. EASTWOOD,

Medical Officer of Health.

Statistical Summary, 1941.

AREA (including foreshore)	7,006 Acres
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POPULATION :

1931 census	31,706
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Registrar-General's estimate for 1941	44,500
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LIVE BIRTHS :		Male.	Female.	Total.
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Legitimate	225	262	487
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Illegitimate	24	16	40
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			249	278	527

BIRTH RATE : 11·8.

STILL BIRTHS :		Male.	Female.	Total.
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Legitimate	13	9	22
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Illegitimate	1	3	4
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			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
			14	12	26

STILL BIRTH RATE (per 1,000 total births) : 48·8.

DEATHS :	Male.	Female.	Total.
	283	341	624
DEATH RATE : 14·0.			
PUERPERAL DEATHS :			
From puerperal sepsis ...	...	...	0
From other puerperal causes ...	...	...	0
			<hr/>
	Total	...	0
			<hr/>
INFANT MORTALITY (Deaths of infants under one year of age) :			
Rate for all infants per 1,000 live births ...	...	...	55·9
Rate for all legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	...	...	45·1
Rate for all illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	...	...	200·0
OTHER DEATHS :			
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ...	...	...	72
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ...	...	...	1
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	...	...	6
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ...	...	...	3

I. Vital Statistics.

REGISTERED BIRTHS.—After allowing for inward and outward transfers, the Registrar-General credited the Borough with 527 live births for 1941 ; 249 were males and 278 females. Of these, 40 were illegitimate (24 males and 16 females). The registered number of still births was 26 (14 males and 12 females) of which number 1 male and 3 females were illegitimate.

The birth rate for 1941 was 11·8 per 1,000 of the population. This was higher than the birth rate in Weston-super-Mare in recent years, but considerably below the birth rate for the whole country, which was 14·2.

DEATHS.—683 deaths were registered as having occurred in the Borough during the year. After deducting the deaths of 143 non-residents and adding the deaths of 83 normal residents which took place outside the Borough, the net total comes to 623 Weston deaths. Of these, 283 were males and 340 females.

The number of deaths in the four quarters of the year were :—First quarter 233, second quarter 153, third quarter 117 and fourth quarter 120. This is quite a normal seasonal distribution.

The following tables show the causes of death and the sex and age distribution of deaths :—

CAUSES OF DEATH.					1941.	
					Males.	Females.
ALL CAUSES	...	...	Total	623	283	340
1	Typhoid and para-typhoid fevers	...			—	—
2	Measles	...	...	...	1	—
3	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	—	—
4	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	3	3
5	Diphtheria	...	...	...	2	4
6	Influenza	...	...	...	3	4
7	Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	—	—
8	Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	2	1
9	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	...	10	6
10	Other tuberculous diseases	...	...	...	4	2
11	Syphilis	...	...	...	1	—
12	General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis	...	...	...	—	—
13	Cancer, malignant disease	...	...	...	29	43
14	Diabetes	...	...	...	—	5
15	Cerebral hæmorrhage, etc.	...	...	...	—	—
16	Heart Disease	...	...	...	75	87
17	Aneurysm	...	...	...	—	—
18	Other circulatory diseases	...	...	...	4	5
19	Bronchitis	...	...	...	24	22
20	Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	10	11
21	Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	2	4
22	Peptic ulcer	...	...	...	3	2
23	Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	...	...	...	—	3
	„ „ (2 years and over)	...	...	...	1	—
24	Appendicitis	...	...	...	—	2
25	Cirrhosis of liver	...	...	...	—	—
26	Other diseases of liver, etc.	...	...	...	—	—
27	Other digestive diseases	...	...	...	9	9
28	Acute and chronic nephritis	...	...	...	7	8
29	Puerperal sepsis	...	...	...	—	—
30	Other puerperal causes	...	...	...	—	—
31	Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc.	...	...	...	12	4
32	Senility	...	...	...	—	—
33	Suicide	...	...	...	4	—
34	Other violence	...	...	...	16	23
35	Other defined diseases	...	...	...	—	—
36	Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	—	—
Special causes (included in No. 35 above)—						
	Small-pox	...	...	...	—	—
	Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	—
	Polioencephalitis	...	...	...	—	—
Deaths of Infants	Total	...	...	...	19	13
under 1 year	Legitimate	...	...	...	12	12
	Illegitimate	...	...	...	7	1
RESIDENT POPULATION Mid-year, 1941					44,500	
(for calculation of death-rate)						

SEX AND AGE DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS, 1941.

Ages at Death in Years.			Males	Females.	Total.
Under 1	...	...	19	13	32
1 to 9	...	...	10	10	20
10 to 24	...	...	22	9	31
25 to 44	...	...	17	18	35
45 to 64	...	...	71	58	129
65 to 69	...	...	27	49	76
			—166	—157	—323
70 to 74	...	...	33	43	76
75 to 79	...	...	29	44	73
80 to 84	...	...	35	42	77
85 to 89	...	...	17	33	50
90 to 94	...	...	3	16	19
95 to 99	...	...	—	4	4
100	...	...	—	1	1
			—117	—183	—300
			283	340	623

INFANT MORTALITY.—The number of deaths of infants under 1 year of age, registered during the year, was 32 (19 male and 13 female). Of these, 7 males and 1 female were illegitimate. These 32 deaths represent an infant mortality rate of 60·7 per 1,000 live births.

INQUESTS.—Inquests held by the Coroner in the Borough during the year numbered 52, of which 32 were upon residents of Weston-super-Mare and 20 upon non-residents. The causes of death in respect of residents are set out in the following table :—

Causes of Death.			Males.	Females.	Total.
Natural Causes	...	...	8	9	17
Strangulation	...	...	1	—	1
Accidents : Burns	...	...	—	1	1
Falls	...	...	1	4	5
Falls from height			—	—	—
Poisoning : Coal gas	...	...	—	—	—
Motor Car fumes			—	—	—
During Operations	...	...	1	—	1
In Motor Vehicles	...	...	1	1	2
By Motor Vehicles	...	...	2	—	2
Suicide : Drowning		...	—	—	—
Hanging	...	...	1	—	1
Poisoning : Coal gas			—	—	—
Motor Car fumes			—	—	—
Jumping from height			1	—	1
Found Drowned	...	...	1	—	1
			17	15	32

II. General Health Services.

The following additions to the normal health services of the Borough were made during the year :—

The Hostel at Clare House, Beaconsfield Road, was reorganised as a Sick Bay, and this was later closed down and transferred to more commodious premises in Ellenborough Park South. Two adjoining houses, “ Glenelg ” and “ Pinehurst,” were thrown into one and the Glenelg portion was opened as an Auxiliary Isolation Hospital (15 beds and 4 cots), Pinehurst continuing the work of the Sick Bay (22 beds and 8 cots). In December the Minor Ailments’ Clinic, formerly operated at the Town Hall for children under five years, was transferred to part of the Pinehurst premises, which were very much more suitable for the purpose.

An additional Sick Bay was also opened at “ Tralee,” Birnbeck Road (22 beds and 10 cots).

During the early part of the year, a Cleansing Station for dealing with cases of personal infestation was opened in the old Nurses’ home at the Isolation Hospital, and a Shampoo Centre for dealing specifically with verminous infestation of the head was opened above Glass’s Restaurant in Regent Street. The following statistics show the work carried out at these institutions and centres :—

Clare House Sick Bay : Admissions during 1941	...	20
Glenelg Sick Bay : Admissions during 1941	... ..	30
Glenelg Auxiliary Isolation Section : Admissions during 1941	... ..	48
Tralee Sick Bay : Admissions during 1941	... ..	134
Cleansing Station : Patients treated during 1941	...	1,067
Shampoo Centre : Patients treated during 1941	...	1,308
Minor Ailments’ Clinic : Attendances during 1941	...	469

III. Infectious Disease.

The following table sets out particulars of infectious disease occurring in the Borough during the year :—

DISEASE.	Total Cases notified.	Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	72	67	—
Diphtheria	109	108	6
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	1	1	—
Measles	495	5	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	11	6	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	6	2	—
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	11	7	1
Dysentery	26	26	—
Pneumonia	47	1	3
Acute Poliomyelitis	2	1	—
Whooping Cough	210	—	6
		Total Cases notified.	Total Deaths.
Tuberculosis Respiratory	53		6
Non-respiratory	8		—

The incidence of measles was excessive in the early part of the year and, at the same time, a considerable number of cases of whooping cough were notified. The number of notifications of diphtheria was also high, most of the cases occurring during the first six months of the year.

IV. Diphtheria Immunisation.

The usual publicity by means of leaflets distributed in the town was continued during the year, and the following table shows the progress of immunisation against diphtheria :—

	Immunisation completed during 1941.		Immunisation begun but not completed during 1941.	
	Under 5 yrs.	5—15 yrs.	Under 5 yrs.	5—15 yrs.
Number of children	742	2,914	93	69
Percentage of children in each of the two age groups ...	34.2%	65.5%	4.3%	1.6%

V. Maternity and Child Welfare.

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS.—Accommodation is provided for normal confinements at Allandale Maternity Home, while abnormal cases are admitted to the Maternity Ward of the General Hospital.

The Council have an arrangement whereby an Obstetric Consultant can be called in by any doctor in respect of a case of abnormal pregnancy or labour.

The following table shows the admissions to maternity beds at Allandale and the General Hospital :—

	Number of Beds.	Number of Patients admitted during 1941.
Allandale... ..	13	249
General Hospital Maternity Ward	5 (available to the Borough Council)	48

HEALTH VISITING.—In January, 1941, the Health Visiting staff was increased by the addition of a Temporary Health Visitor appointed by the Council, and a Health Visitor seconded from one of the London Boroughs, primarily for service amongst the evacuees. The following table shows the work of the Health Visitors during the year, but it should be borne in mind that the bare statistics convey only an imperfect idea of the work which is actually done. Much of the Health Visitors' work cannot be reduced to any statistical record and, moreover, the quality of the work done (depending upon the training and personality of the individual) is of much more significance than the actual number of visits paid :—

	Infants under 1 year.			Children 1—5 yrs.	Ante-natal.			Boarded out Children.
	First Visits.	Other Visits.	Total.		First Visits.	Other Visits.	Total.	
Residents ...	571	2,612	3,183	8,163	255	381	636	321
Evacuees ...	121	1,075	1,196	5,606	114	206	320	—

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION.—The visits in connection with boarded out children are given in the foregoing table. There were in the Borough eleven women registered as foster parents, and authorised to take into their care a total of 31 children.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE ASSOCIATION.—The Council continued making an annual grant to the Maternity and Child Welfare Association, which provided Ante-Natal and Infant Welfare Clinics as follows :—

Ante-Natal Clinics held at The Church Institute, The Boulevard, Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 2.30 p.m.

Infant Welfare Clinics held at The Church Institute, The Boulevard, Monday, 11 a.m. to 12 noon ; Tuesday, 2.30 p.m. to 4 p.m. ; Thursday, 11 a.m. to 12 noon ; Friday, 11 a.m. to 12 noon.

At The Congregational Schoolroom, Moorland Road, Thursday, 2.30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

The Wednesday Ante-Natal Session and the Monday and Thursday Child Welfare Sessions are additional to those normally held, and were brought into being on account of the special needs of the evauees.

The following table summarises the work done during the year :—

BOULEVARD CENTRE.

INFANT WELFARE.

Total number of children who first attended during 1941 :

(a) Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	260	
(b) Over 1 year	...	...	...	...	108	
Total number of children under 5	...	...	...	...	763	
Total attendances	...	...	...	...	3,766	
Mothers attending	...	...	...	...	648	
Total attendances	...	...	...	...	3,574	(1,217)

ANTE-NATAL.

Weston mothers	...	...	...	...	307	(111)
Number of attendances	...	...	...	...	1,298	(361)
POST-NATAL	...	...	...	...	8	(15)

MOORLAND ROAD CLINIC.

Children who first attended during 1941 :

(a) Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	48	
(b) Over 1 year	...	...	...	...	28	
Total number under 5	...	...	...	...	280	
(a) Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	102	
(b) Over 1 year	...	...	...	...	178	
Total attendances	...	...	...	...	2,426	

* Figures in brackets represent evauees.

SPECIAL CLINICS AND WELFARE PROVISIONS.

Attendance of children under 5 at Dental Clinic	...	51
Attendance of expectant and nursing mothers at Dental Clinic	... ..	140
Number of patients provided with dentures	... ..	5
Number of children under 5 referred to Orthopædic Clinic	... ..	53
Number of patients provided with orthopædic appliances		2
Number of patients admitted to Bath Orthopædic Hospital	.....	4
Number of children referred to Massage Clinic	... ..	11
Number of children referred to Artificial Sunlight Clinic	... ..	20
Cases where special nourishment was supplied	...	1

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS, ETC.—Six cases of ophthalmia neonatorum occurred during the year, and all were treated in Hospital. In five cases recovery was uneventful with vision unimpaired, but in one case there was some permanent impairment of sight.

During the year twenty cases of children under five years of age were referred to the County Oculist on account of defective vision or squint.

VI. War-time Nurseries.

During the year two part-time and one full-time nursery were brought into operation, in addition to the two part-time nurseries which were opened in 1940.

The accommodation at Prospect Hall was doubled by opening what was in effect, another nursery on the upper floor. The following table shows the work of the nurseries :—

Nursery.	Date of Opening.	Average Daily Attendance.
*Prospect Hall (part time)	(1st Nursery, May, 1940)	} 24 during 38 weeks
The Good Shepherd Hall (part time)	(2nd Nursery, Jan., 1941)	
	May, 1940 ...	25 during 40 weeks
Milton Hill (part time)	January, 1941	16 during 38 weeks
The Corton (part time)	March, 1941 ...	12 during 33 weeks
Neva Road (full time)	December, 1941	5 during 3 weeks

* Provides a rather fuller service, including a mid-day meal.

VII. Miscellaneous.

PUBLICITY AND HEALTH EDUCATION.—Posters were exhibited in the town and the distribution of leaflets arranged on various subjects, at appropriate seasons of the year. The subjects covered included immunisation against diphtheria, precautions in respect of the common cold and influenza, scabies, lice and nits and measles.

SPECIAL WAR-TIME ACTIVITIES.—The Department of Public Health was closely concerned with many special war-time activities, including air-raid precautions, the medical supervision of evacuated children in hostels, and of evacuees generally, and other types of war-work too numerous to particularise.

VIII. Sanitary Work.

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF
THE BOROUGH OF WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I herewith present my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1941.

COURT AND STATUTORY PROCEEDINGS.

You authorised proceedings in Court with regard to canned beans deposited for sale in a town café. The Justices convicted the defendant in this case. The Axbridge Rural District Council took similar proceedings against the wholesaler who supplied the defendant in the above case, with a similar result. The canned beans in question had been subjected to enemy action damage.

Formal statutory notices were served in respect of 4 premises. The specified works were carried out at 3 of the premises.

HOUSING.

Owing to war conditions it has been impossible to undertake routine recorded inspections, but a close attention has been given to defects that endangered the health of house occupiers. Six houses were reconditioned as a result of formal action and 81 houses were repaired as a result of informal procedure.

VERMIN INFESTATION.

The number of houses found to be infested by vermin was 63.

Treatments—Primary	...	...	...	63
„ Secondary	...	...	...	70
„ Preventive	...	...	...	10
„ to rooms	...	...	...	419

The methods of treatment used for disinfection are :—
(1) Ris ; (2) Kilgercide ; (3) Zaldecide ; (4) the use of fumigants in conjunction with the above preparations.

OVERCROWDING.

Owing to the numbers of voluntary and official evacuees and war workers in the town there has been a certain amount of latitude allowed in respect of overcrowding. Many difficulties have been overcome by re-allocation of individuals to different rooms and by arrangements for others to sleep out. So far as I am aware, no bad cases have arisen. Owing to frequent movements, it has been somewhat difficult to keep in touch with changing conditions.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

In only two cases was it necessary to require factory owners to amend conditions with regard to excessive smoke and grit emissions.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.

In common with most areas in the County, there has been a wider spread of rat and mice infestation. I suggest that this may be due to war conditions, bomb effects and/or change in habits of occupation. A considerable publicity has been given to this matter in the Press, by posters and by the propaganda efforts of your officers. The refuse tips have been regularly baited and gassed by a contractor. The sewers were systematically treated on several occasions by the sewer workmen. It is estimated that at least 20,000 baits were laid in the sewers and that at least 50 per cent. of these were taken by rats. It is obviously impossible to estimate the kill resulting from this action. Infested houses and food premises have been treated and the occupiers advised as to appropriate preventive measures to be taken.

The number of premises treated was 89.

The baits used were :—Barium Carbonate, Arsenic and Red Squill.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

The number of premises on the Register is 244, of which 32 are power and non-power bakehouses.

The general classification is as follows :—

Power factories, 142 ; non-power factories, 102.

Details of work done are indicated on the table below :—

1 INSPECTIONS.

including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

PREMISES. (1)	Number of		
	Inspec- tions. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Prosecu- tions. (4)
Factories with mechanical power ...	295	50	—
Factories without mechanical power	125	24	—
Other Premises under the Act (in- cluding works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises) ...	60	—	—
TOTAL ...	470	74	—

2 DEFECTS FOUND.

PARTICULARS. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of Defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	
Want of cleanliness, including bakehouse lime washing ...	64	64	—	—
Overcrowding ...	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature ...	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ...	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6) ...	—	—	—	—
Sanitary { insufficient ...	1	1	—	—
Conveniences { unsuitable or defective ...	5	5	—	—
(S. 7) { not separate for sexes ...	1	1	—	—
Other offences ...	—	—	—	—
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Power Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937). TOTAL ...	71	71	—	—

Fire Certificates ... 2

SHOPS ACT, 1934.

There were no contraventions found during the year.

HOLIDAY CAMPING GROUNDS.

There was practically no holiday camping in Weston-super-Mare during the year.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are 10 fish friers in the town. Of these, 5 are licensed annually. A gut scrapers' business is carried on at the Public Abattoirs and there is a fellmongers' business established at Rickett's Lane, Worle.

SUMMARY OF VISITS

by Sanitary Inspector's Staff (not including Health Visitors).

Total number of inspections and visits	5,622
Nuisances or complaints	939
Work ordered	394
Work in progress	226
Drainage tests visits :—	
Smoke tests at existing buildings	21
Water tests at existing buildings	10
Inspection of concrete in connection with drains ...	7
Dwelling houses :—	
Number inspected under Public Health and Housing Acts	301
Number inspections made for the purpose	402
Houses inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulation, 1925	2
Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	10
Number of housing inspections <i>re</i> (miscellaneous matters)	104
Housing inspections <i>re</i> infectious diseases	15
Number of houses inspected <i>re</i> vermin	55
Number of houses re-inspected <i>re</i> vermin	45
Number of houses inspected <i>re</i> overcrowding ...	8
Number of houses re-inspected <i>re</i> overcrowding ...	13
Number of re-inspections after service of notices P.H.A., 1875	102
Number of houses <i>re</i> Housing (Overcrowding) Act, 1935	7
Interviews with agents, owners, contractors, etc. ...	1,047
Factory inspections	295
Workshop inspections :—	
Bakehouses	125
Outworkers	6
Shops Act inspections	10
Cowsheds and farm inspections	71
Dairies and milkshops inspections	194
Common lodging house inspections	15

Ice cream shops and premises inspections	...	...	47
Butchers' shops and Abattoir inspections	.	...	1,485
Food shops and food premises inspections	...	...	525
Offensive trades inspections	...	...	60
Tents, vans and sheds inspections	...	...	15
Inspections <i>re</i> manure pits	...	...	10
Inspection of premises where animals are kept	...	...	40
Inspection of public and private refuse tips	...	...	41
Refuse bin inspections	...	...	11
Smoke abatement inspections	...	...	17
Public buildings inspections (including licensed amuse- ment premises)	...	...	50
Rat infestation inspections	...	...	295
Water samples taken	...	...	...
Petrol spirit licensing inspections	...	...	93
Miscellaneous visits	...	...	962

WORK DONE.

Houses repaired (Housing and Public Health Acts)	...	75
Houses repaired informally under Housing Acts	...	8
Houses repaired formally under Housing Acts	...	6
Houses cleansed and decorated	...	19
Rooms cleansed and decorated	...	93
Rooms repaired	...	61
Roofs repaired or stripped and retiled or reslated	...	31
Floors relaid or repaired	...	33
Skirtings, etc., renewed or repaired	...	10
Fire grates renewed or repaired	...	42
Doors repaired or new ones fixed	...	28
Stairs renewed or repaired	...	6
Windows renewed or repaired	...	36
Ventilations and/or lighting improved	...	15
Food stores provided or improved	...	11
Plastering of walls and/or ceilings repaired or stripped	...	40
Rain water spouting or guttering repaired or renewed	...	8
Rain water cisterns repaired, abolished or new fixed	...	4
Walls pointed and repaired or rendered	...	3
External plaster repaired or re-rendered	...	5
Chimney stacks and flues repaired or rebuilt	...	8
Earth banks removed from houses	...	1
Sites concreted under living rooms	...	4
Floor timbers treated for dry rot	...	2
Sanitary sinks provided	...	19
Yards paved, repaired or relaid	...	13
Tenants required to amend conditions	...	23
Refuse bins provided	...	10
Factories and workshops :—		

See Factory and Workshops Report, page 15.

Dairies and milk shops :—					
Sanitary and structural conditions improved	...	...	...	3	
Contraventions	...	...	...	1	
Cowsheds :—					
Contraventions	...	...	...	4	
Offensive trades :—Sanitary conditions improved	...	...	...	1	
Trade premises :—Sanitary conditions improved	...	...	...	13	
Accumulations of manure or offensive matter removed	...	...	...	3	
Animals and poultry :—Nuisances abated	...	...	...	3	
Rat infestation :—Premises dealt with	...	...	...	24	
Drainage :—					
Drains relaid at existing houses	...	...	...	2	
Drains cleared and cleansed or repaired	...	...	...	65	
Premises supplied with additional drainage	...	...	...	13	
Additional drains provided	...	...	...	17	
New drain inspection chambers provided	...	...	...	11	
Premises supplied with additional water closets	...	...	...	13	
Additional water closets provided	...	...	...	13	
Water closets or urinals repaired or reconstructed	...	...	...	24	
New water closet pedestals fixed	...	...	...	34	
New water closet flushing cisterns fixed	...	...	...	19	
New baths fixed	...	...	...	16	
New lavatory basins fixed	...	...	...	45	
Soil pipes and drain ventilators repaired	...	...	...	2	
Soil pipes and drain ventilators fixed	...	...	...	11	
Waste pipes fixed, repaired or reconstructed	...	...	...	25	
Nuisances from overflowing cesspools abated	...	...	...	4	
Ditches and back lanes cleansed	...	...	...	1	
Accumulations of rubbish removed	...	...	...	19	
Smoke or fumes :—Nuisances abated or complaints dealt with				3	
Shops Act :—Washing facilities provided	...	...	...	1	
Fire extinguishers provided	...	...	...	10	
Infectious Disease Disinfections :—				Rooms.	Articles.
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	76	1,251
Diphtheria	...	...	...	115	1,493
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	75	611
Non-notifiable	...	...	...	120	3,728
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	...	8	94
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	—	3
Typhoid	...	...	...	2	21
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	1	29
Erysipelas	...	...	...	3	56
Impetigo	...	...	...	—	8
Cancer	...	...	...	17	132
Scabies	...	...	...	6	7,234
Vermin	...	...	...	413	349
				<hr/> 836	<hr/> 15,009

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

PARTICULARS OF REGISTER.

Number of producers on the Register	26
Number of distributors, divided as follows :— (including 32 who trade from outside the Borough)	
A. Distributors only	103
B. Distributors who are also producers	15
(A producer is only included as a distributor if he definitely makes a business of selling his milk by retail to individual customers.)	
Number of licences given to Graded Milk Distributors :—	
Supplementary Certified Tuberculin Tested ...	2
Supplementary Pasteurised	1
There is only one accredited milk producer in the district.	
The following milk samples were submitted to the County Bacteriologist for examination :—	
Pasteurised	4
Accredited milk	—
Herd milk for the presence of tubercle bacilli ...	9

ICE CREAM MAKERS AND SELLERS.

Particulars of register :—

Makers only	1
Vendors only	86
Vendors and makers	38

MEAT AND FOOD CONTROL.

Frequent inspections have been made at meat and other food premises and factories. The standard of maintenance and cleanliness has been fairly good, but in some cases I have had to take informal action to enforce an improvement of general conditions.

The points system has enlarged the practice of traders contracting this department for the issue of surrender notes in respect of unsound or suspect and damaged foods.

Number of premises on the register for the preparation of pickled, preserved, etc., meats ...	44
---	----

PUBLIC ABATTOIR.

The Abattoir is the official “slaughtering place” for a large area which has an approximate population of 250,000.

It will be observed from the accompanying tabular statements that the slaughtering figures have been well maintained and incidentally necessitated extra hours of work by your inspectional staff.

As was anticipated, and as experience has been gained by the Ministry of Food officers and stock agents, the allocation of animals for slaughter has resulted in a considerable improvement, particularly as regards the working time spread. It is understood that the Ministry is very satisfied with the service extended by this authority in respect of the Abattoir. This is in no small degree due to officials of the Ministry.

Mr. W. W. White commenced duty at the Abattoir in August.

The financial results show an improvement on those of the previous year.

The following salvage was handed on to the Government Agents for recovery purposes :—

		Tons.	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.
Condemned meat	... ..	36	3	0	16
Blood	... ..	37	6	3	4
Non-edible offals	... ..	335	12	3	22
TOTAL		459	2	3	14

There has been no necessity to review rentals of offices and factories as this was done in 1940 ; all rentals remain at the revised figure.

During the year the Committee considered a site in the Cattle Market for the Weston-super-Mare Meat Pool, and it was agreed to extend and equip existing buildings. This was accomplished and the W.M.S.A. took possession of same on October 1st, 1941, at a rental of £200 and rates per annum.

Washing of cars during the year brought in a rental of £36 2s. 0d., as against £11 4s. 6d. in 1940.

Increase, £14 17s. 6d.

ANIMALS KILLED AT THE PUBLIC ABATTOIR.

		1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.
Pigs	...	4,357	4,528	4,718	4,413	3,964	3,653	6,021	4,875
Sheep	...	12,375	11,902	11,283	9,943	10,696	12,919	47,238	46,089
Calves	...	776	795	914	939	835	857	3,448	5,977
Beasts	...	1,172	1,440	1,432	1,313	1,183	1,365	7,252	10,215

Differences from the year 1940 :

Cattle.	Calves.	Sheep.	Pigs.
+2,963	+2,529	—1,149	—1,146

The slaughtering fees at the Public Abattoir are as follows :—

Pigs	...	...	...	...	1s. 3d.
Sheep	...	...	...	...	9d.
Calves	...	...	...	...	1s. 3d.
Beasts	...	...	...	...	3s. 0d.

and the income from slaughtering tolls for each yearly period is :—

1938	...	£955	13	9	
1939	...	£1,160	6	11	
1940	...	£3,718	17	0	
1941	...	£4,107	9	2	+ over pre-control
		year 1939	=£3,047	2	3

During 1941 the increased revenue from tolls for slaughtering over 1940 is £388 12s. 2d.

The following tables show the percentage of animals killed at the Abattoirs which were found by microscopic inspection to be affected in some degree with tuberculosis and other diseases :—

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	* Cattle, excluding Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed	10,215	5,977	46,089	4,875
Number inspected	10,215	5,977	46,089	4,875
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS.				
Whole carcases condemned	16	—	82	13
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1,307	10	970	74
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis	12.8%	0.16%	2.3%	1.8%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.				
Whole carcases condemned	159	2	1	5
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2,960	45	—	1,548
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	30.4%	0.79%	.002%	31.8%

* Should read
"including"
see amendment
letter
7/10/12 for
on 1806/10000

DISEASED OR INJURED MEAT CONDEMNED AT THE ABATTOIRS.

	Tuberculosis.				Cirrhosis (Distoma Hepaticum).				Bruised & Fevered	Abscesses.	Dropsy.	Arthritis.	Pneumonia.	Swine Fever.	Nephritis.	John's Disease.	Angioma.	Actino.	Cysts.	Pericarditis	TOTAL.	
	Bullocks.	Heifers.	Cows.	Total.	Bullocks.	Heifers.	Cows.	Total.														
CATTLE.																						
Carcass and all Offal ...	—	—	—	159	—	—	—	—	5	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	175
Quarters ...	—	—	—	113	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	113
Heads and Tongues ...	—	—	—	954	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	960
Lungs ...	—	—	—	1087	—	—	—	—	—	59	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	40	—	71	—	1,222
Livers ...	—	—	—	560	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,712
Spleens ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Guts ...	—	—	—	171	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	171
Stomachs ...	—	—	—	75	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	75
Kidneys ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	8
Hearts ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
CALF.																						
Carcass ...	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Liver ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10
Plucks ...	—	—	45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	45
Pigs.																						
Carcass and Offal ...	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18
Heads ...	—	—	581	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	581
Plucks ...	—	—	214	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	214
Kidneys ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	4
Guts ...	—	—	753	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	753
Livers ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	54
Lungs ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Legs ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Hearts ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
SHEEP.																						
Carcasses ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	82	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	83
Livers ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	963	—	963
Plucks ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Legs ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3

DISEASED MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

The total weight of diseased, unsound or injured meat and organs condemned was :—

	Tons.	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.	Tons	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.
Tuberculosis :—								
Beef and organs, including 159 carcasses and 113 quarters	56	0	1	12				
Pigs and organs, including 5 carcasses	8	7	1	7				
Veal		4	3	22				
<hr/>								
Total weight of tuber- culous meat ...					64	12	2	13
Non-Tuberculous Meat :—								
Beef and organs	11	6	1	4				
Pigs , including 13 carcasses and organs		3	0	16				
Sheep and Lambs , including 82 carcasses and organs ...	2	18	1	9				
Veal			2	4				
<hr/>								
Total weight of non- tuberculous meat ...					14	8	1	5
<hr/>								
Total weight of all con- demned meat ...					79	0	3	18
<hr/> <hr/>								

FOOD CONDEMNED FROM PREMISES IN THE TOWN.

	Cwt.	qrs.	lbs.
Beef	13	0	8
Mutton and Lamb		2	9
Fish	3	5	23
Sausage Meat		3	12
Bacon		3	25
Potatoes	3	0	23
Trimnings from blocks of Margarine			5
Dried Apples			50

Canned Foods :

Vegetables	...	...	...	...	...	266	tins
Fruit	...	...	...	...	...	103	„
Fish (various)	...	...	...	...	...	146	„
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	50	„
Soups	...	...	...	...	...	5	„
Fish Roll	...	...	...	...	...	72	„
Turkey and Ham Roll	...	...	...	...	...	1	„
Ox Tongue	...	...	...	...	...	2	„
Meat Roll	...	...	...	...	...	11	„
Paste	...	...	...	...	...	73	„
Stewed Beef	...	...	...	...	...	75	„
Chicken, Ham and Tongue Roll	...	...	...	...	...	6	„
Syrup	...	...	...	...	...	6	„
Pork Luncheon Meat	...	...	...	...	...	1	„
Jam	...	...	...	...	...	16	jars
Sauce	...	...	...	...	...	2	bottles
Fish Cakes	...	...	...	...	...	662	
Cakes and Tarts	...	...	...	...	...	467	
Loaves	...	...	...	...	...	242	
Rolls	...	...	...	...	...	195	
Cheese	...	...	...	...	...	16	pkts.
Pikelets	...	...	...	...	...	864	
Custard Powder	...	...	...	...	...	59	pkts.
Pickles	...	...	...	...	...	7	jars

The following samples of food were submitted to the County Analyst :—(a) Cooked pork, (b) stuffing, (c) boiled potato, (d) stuffing from sealed packet. None of the above showed bacteria of the Salmonella type, no Staphylococci and no dysentery bacilli.

Four cans of fish roll were reported on as satisfactory.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

Mr. H. F. Hardiman, the Somerset County Food and Drugs Inspector, has kindly supplied the following statement of the samples of foods, drugs and drinks taken for analysis by the Public Analyst during 1941 :—

Sample taken.	Result of Analysis.
35 Milk	... Genuine
1 Borax	...
1 Tartaric Acid	...
1 Fruit Wine	...
1 Shredded Suet	...
1 Coffee	...
1 Beer	...
1 Gin	...

42 Samples taken.

I have to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, the Mayor and Members of the Council, the Medical Officer of Health and other Members of your Health Department Staff and other Council Officials who have so kindly co-operated in the work of the Department.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

H. W. BLADON,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

IX. Meteorology.

The following table summarises the meteorological observations for the year 1941. The observations are taken at Clarence Park, the Town Hall and Madeira Cove.

Monthly Results of Climatological Observations, 1941.

1941. MONTH.	AIR TEMPERATURES.							Mean Relative Humidity (9 a.m.).	Mean Amount of Cloud (9 a.m.).	RADIATION.		RAIN.		SUN.		Mean Barometer Reading (9 a.m.)
	MEANS.						EXTREMES.			Min. on Grass.	Amount. Inches.	No. of Days with .04 ins. or more.	Number of Hours.			
	9 a.m.	Min.	Max.	Range.	Mean.	Min.	Max.									
January	35.7	32.2	40.1	7.9	36.1	18.5	50.0	7.1	29.9	3.70	10	47.6	29.798			
February	39.8	36.1	46.0	9.9	41.0	26.3	57.3	5.7	33.1	3.17	15	74.2	29.559			
March	41.9	37.1	49.5	12.4	43.3	30.1	59.2	6.3	34.7	3.04	11	89.2	29.862			
April	45.2	39.1	51.6	12.5	45.3	32.8	61.4	7.0	36.5	1.31	8	127.4	29.970			
May	50.2	42.6	56.5	13.9	49.5	31.8	65.3	6.2	39.1	1.78	8	149.3	29.912			
June	59.7	52.8	66.2	13.4	59.5	44.9	85.2	7.3	49.0	1.76	5	195.0	30.040			
July	65.0	57.2	71.2	14.0	64.2	49.8	86.1	6.4	53.8	2.07	8	215.2	29.953			
August	60.7	54.5	65.8	11.3	60.1	47.4	74.4	6.6	50.9	3.96	18	176.6	29.829			
September	59.0	53.6	67.3	13.7	60.4	41.3	78.9	7.7	49.0	.61	2	128.0	30.201			
October	53.1	47.5	59.6	12.1	53.5	34.2	73.4	6.9	42.5	1.30	10	119.7	30.117			
November	46.5	41.8	52.1	10.3	46.4	26.7	58.5	8.4	37.3	2.00	12	48.7	29.884			
December	43.3	39.8	48.7	8.9	44.2	25.9	57.9	8.1	35.4	2.20	11	49.0	30.242			
Means and Totals*	50.0	44.5	56.2	11.5	50.2	34.1	67.3	6.9	40.9	26.90*	118*	1,419.9*	29.938			

